Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 EB-06 /023 R

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DRAFTED BY: OPIC/PA:R. L. JORDAN APPROVED BY: EB/IFD/OIA:R J SMITH

EB/IFD/OIA: DHSTEBBING NEA/AFN:JVMONTVILLE

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TO AMEMBASSY RABAT PRIORITY

UNCLAS STATE 227287

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: MO, EINV

SUBJ: STATEMENT FOR OPIC 1974 ANNUAL REPORT

- 1. REQUEST YOUR HELP IN CLEARING STATEMENT ON BENEFITS OF FOREIGN INVESTMENT BY KING OR MINISTER OF FINANCE FOR USE IN OPIC'S ANNUAL REPORT FEATURING 16 DEVELOPING NATIONS. MOROCCO IS ONLY ONE OF GROUP FAILING TO RESPOND. UNLESS RECEIVED SOONEST, STATEMENT MUST BE DROPPED FROM REPORT. ALSO OPIC NEEDS PHOTO OF PERSON MAKING STATEMENT.
- 2. FOR YOUR GUIDANCE IN MAKING CLEAR THE NATURE AND LENGTH OF THE STATEMENT DESIRED, OPIC HAS PREPARED THE FOLLOWING LANGUAGE.
- 3. BEGIN TEXT: SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PLANS HAVE HELPED TO GUIDE MOROCCO THROUGH THE POST-INDEPENDENCE PERIOD OF ITS HISTORY, AND THE NATION IS MAKING MARKED PROGRESS TOWARDS ITS ULTIMATE GOAL OF ESTABLISHING A MORE REWARDING WAY OF LIFE.
- 4. BECAUSE THE NATION DEPENDS HEAVILY ON AGRICULTURE, MUCH OF THE THRUST OF PREVIOUS PLANS HAS BEEN DIRECTED TOWARD UNCLASSIFIED

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THE DEVELOPMENT OF A BASICALLY SOUND INFRASTRUCTURE AND

THE DEVELOPMENT OF NEW AGRICULTURAL METHODS AND TECHNIQUES DESIGNED TO MAKE THIS IMPORTANT AREA STRONGER AND MORE EFFICIENT. HOWEVER, UNDER THE PRESENT PLAN, EXTENDING FROM 1973 TO 1977, INCREASING EMPHASIS IS DIRECTED TOWARD RAISING THE LEVEL OF INDUSTRIAL CAPACITY TO ACHIEVE A BALANCE WITH AGRICULTURE AND RELATED ACTIVITIES.

- 5. A MAJOR FACTOR IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS PLAN WILL BE THE ATTRACTION OF THE MORE FOREIGN INVESTMENT, PARTICULARLY IN THOSE PROJECTS WHICH WILL FOSTER THE TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY AND SKILLS TO MOROCCANS AND, AT THE SAME TIME, CONTRIBUTE TO THE STRENGTHENING OF THE GENERAL ECONOMY. MOROCCO HAS AN EXCELLENT AND MOBIL LABOR FORCE AND AN INFRASTRUCTURE WHICH CAN HANDLE AN EXPANDING INDUSTRIAL CAPABILITY. IT ALSO HAS PASSED INVESTMENT LAWS DESIGNED TO ALLOW FOR PROFITABLE OPERATION AND THE DEVELOPMENT OF NEW MARKETS BOTH IN MOROCCO ITSELF AND IN THE COUNTRIES OF THE MEDITERRANEAN AREAS.
- 6. WE WELCOME FOREIGN INVESTORS WHOSE UNDERSTANDING OF MOROCCO'S NEEDS AND INTEREST IN PARTICIPATING IN A FUTURE OF GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT WILL MAKE THEM BOTH PARTNERS AND FRIENDS. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, ANNUAL REPORTS

Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 16 OCT 1974 Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960 Decaption Note: Disposition Action: n/a Disposition Approved on Date: Disposition Authority: n/a Disposition Case Number: n/a

Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:

Document Number: 1974STATE227287
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: OPIC/PA:R. L. JORDAN

Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: N/A Errors: N/A

Film Number: D740294-0446

From: STATE

Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path: ISecure: 1

Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741044/aaaabldh.tel

Line Count: 85

Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM Office: ORIGIN OPIC Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED Original Handling Restrictions: n/a Original Previous Classification: n/a Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2

Previous Channel Indicators: Previous Classification: n/a Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a Reference: n/a Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Authority: martinjw

Review Comment: n/a Review Content Flags: Review Date: 20 MAR 2002

Review Event:

Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <20 MAR 2002 by chappeld>; APPROVED <06 FEB 2003 by martinjw>

Review Markings:

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier: Review Referrals: n/a Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: STATEMENT FOR OPIC 1974 ANNUAL REPORT

TAGS: EINV, MO, OPIC

To: RABAT

Type: TE

Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005